

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Nicholas V. NECHITAILO, et al.

Appln. No.: Not Yet Known

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Known

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Known

Filed: October 10, 2001

Examiner: Not Yet Known

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS TO REDUCE VARIATION OF EXCESS FIBER
LENGTH IN BUFFER TUBES OF FIBER OPTIC CABLES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

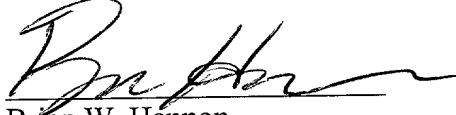
Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

--This application claims benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/256,454 filed on
December 20, 2000, under the provisions of 35 USC 119(e).--

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian W. Hannon

Registration No. 32,778

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN,
MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

Date: October 10, 2001

097315-1001
T00T"ET02.660

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification is changed as follows:

On page 1, prior to the first line, please amend the application as follows.

--This application claims benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/256,454 filed on December 20, 2000, under the provisions of 35 USC 119(e).--

60/256,454